

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

For Week Ending July 14, 1996

Issue: 18-96

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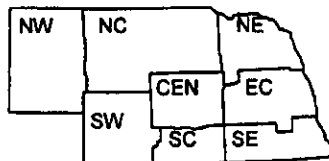
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and Natural Resources-UN-L

WEATHER

The week was mild and cool. Temperatures averaged five to eleven degrees below normals across the State. Precipitation across the State averaged from traces to over four and a half inches.

GENERAL

Wheat harvest made good progress last week but was slowed due to cool, damp weather conditions, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Storms in the southwest and south central brought scattered damage with some portions of south central reporting corn stalks broken by high wind and hail damage. Producer activities included spraying herbicides, cultivating soybeans and grain sorghum, irrigating crops, and putting up hay.

CROPS

Winter wheat harvest was 26% complete by week's end compared with 24% last year. However, that was about one week behind the average of 45%. The standing crop was ripening at a normal pace but also about a week behind average. Cool, damp weather is resulting in extra weed growth which is becoming a problem in some fields. Condition rated 4% very poor, 18% poor, 45% fair, 30% good, and 3% excellent.

Corn condition rated 2% poor, 14% fair, 61% good, and 23% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 88% good to excellent while dryland corn rated 75% good to excellent. Crop growth continued to progress rapidly, but was a week behind the average. Statewide, 7% of the crop has silked as of Sunday. This compares to 1% last year and 24% for the average. Areas

CROPS (Cont.)

hit by storms reported some green snap from high winds and some extensive hail damage.

Soybean condition rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 23% fair, 64% good, and 10% excellent. Chemical and mechanical weed control activities continued. Blooming had begun in 10% of the crop, ahead of last year's 5% but about a week and a half behind the average of 26%.

Sorghum condition rated 2% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, and 12% excellent. Cultivation activities were underway last week.

Oats condition rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 24% fair, 47% good, and 26% excellent. Harvest had begun in most areas of the State last week with 6% complete to date. This compares with 12% last year and 22% for the five-year average.

Dry bean condition rated 3% poor, 30% fair, 62% good, and 5% excellent. Blooming had begun in 13% of the crop to date. None had bloomed at this time last year.

Alfalfa condition rated 4% poor, 34% fair, 51% good, and 11% excellent. Second cutting activities made excellent progress last week with 46% complete as of Sunday. This compares with 34% last year and 41% for the average. Wild hay condition rated 3% poor, 19% fair, 67% good, and 11% excellent. Harvest was underway in some areas.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 2% poor, 33% fair, 57% good and 8% excellent. Lack of rainfall has led to some deterioration of pasture condition. Moisture is needed to insure adequate grazing potential for the remainder of the season.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF JULY 14, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Turning	95	100	99	100	100	100	100	100	98	94	98	99
% Wheat Ripe	8	10	18	43	62	76	86	95	49	32	52	75
% Wheat Harvested	1	0	5	15	27	30	41	85	26	12	24	45
% Corn Silked	0	10	4	1	8	1	11	16	7	n/a	1	24
% Soybean Blooming	0	10	3	17	16	43	18	12	10	n/a	5	26
% Oats Harvested	12	6	2	17	17	0	8	16	6	0	12	22
% Alfalfa Second Cutting	8	54	23	49	54	59	83	70	46	17	34	41
% Dry Beans Blooming	10	20	15	n/a	n/a	20	10	n/a	13	3	0	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 12, 1996												
Days suitable	5.4	6.7	6.4	5.9	6.6	6.1	3.8	5.9	6.0	6.4	7.0	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	1	0	1	0	3	1	0	9	2	5	21	
(Percent) - Short	40	37	36	39	59	45	16	54	41	43	63	
- Adequate	59	63	63	61	36	53	79	37	56	51	16	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	2	1	5	0	1	1	0	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	4	1	2	1	
(Percent) - Short	16	27	27	33	20	31	12	54	28	21	26	
- Adequate	84	70	73	66	74	69	82	42	69	77	73	
- Surplus	0	3	0	1	1	0	6	0	2	0	0	

n/a = not available.

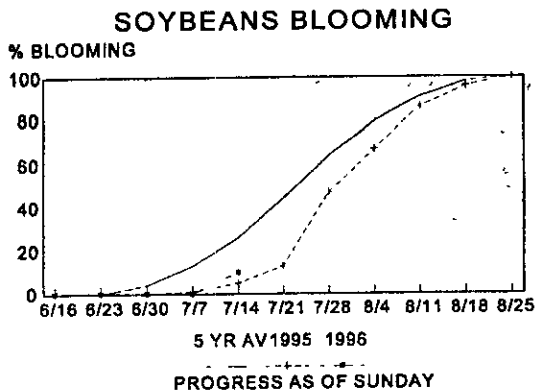
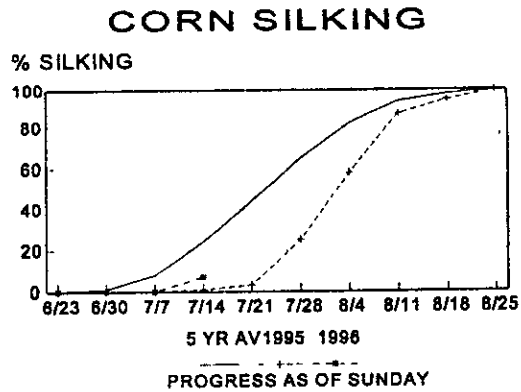
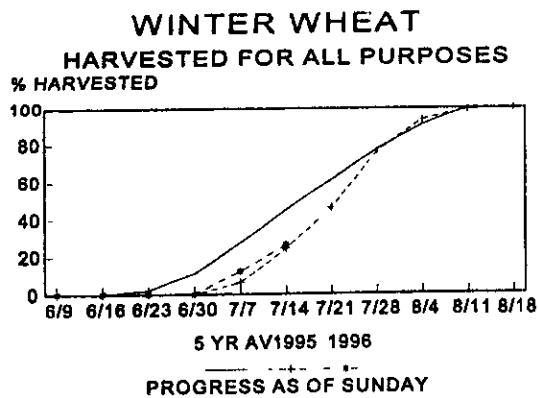
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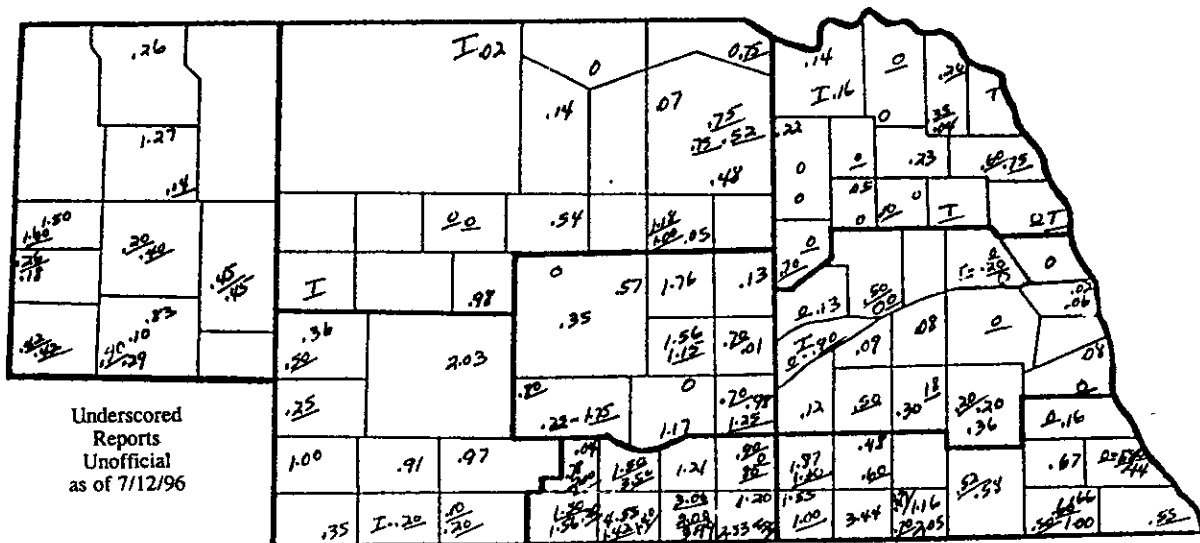
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1996



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 13, 1996

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week68	.25	.07	.65	.11	.94	1.98	1.17
Total since April 1	7.83	9.51	10.77	12.70	16.09	10.92	16.85	12.85
Normal since April 1	8.81	10.33	11.78	11.42	12.50	9.79	11.18	12.47
Total as % of normal	89%	92%	91%	111%	129%	112%	151%	103%

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1996
GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 14, 1996

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	90	52	70	---	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	88	53	69	-5	1.50	1055	1125
	Sidney	94	50	68	---	977	1122	1175
NC	Valentine	85	48	67	-.02	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	990	1125	1229
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	1020	1148	1333
NE	Norfolk	84	46	67	-8	.05	---	---
	Sioux City	83	45	67	-11	T	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	1067	1205	1434
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	1071	1209	1443
	West Point	---	---	---	---	1142	1297	1449
CEN	Grand Island	87	55	69	-8	.98	---	---
	Ord	85	51	69	---	1.76	1102	1240
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	1192	1344	1448
EC	Lincoln	87	48	69	-9	20	1266	1439
	Omaha	86	53	71	-6	.02	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	1182	1326	1511
	Mead	---	---	---	---	1224	1384	1530
SW	Imperial	87	55	70	---	1.00	---	---
	North Platte	88	49	67	-7	2.03	1111	1254
	McCook	---	---	---	---	1178	1351	1453
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	1221	1382	1454
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	1278	1443	1485
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	1295	1459	1453
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	1179	1324	1502

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the High Plains Climate Center.